

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~In a computer system~~ A computing environment comprising a processor providing a unified user interface for a digital modular software component-based shell application having a plurality of software components that execute within the shell application comprising:

~~one or more~~ a plurality of component tables, each component table corresponding to and providing resource information about a particular software component of the digital application, each component table including at least one command for the corresponding component, and each component table including a description for adding ~~the~~ each command to the user interface, each command having an associated priority; ~~and~~

a master table merged from the ~~one or more~~ plurality of component tables, said master table including available commands and available command vectors for the digital application, each command and command vector having a unique object identifier and a visibility flag specifying whether the command or command vector is to be displayed within the interface to a user of the interface, and said master table comprising at least one information element from among the following information elements: available commands including commands that are not menu commands; available command vectors including command vectors that do not correspond to menu commands; commands that are on toolbars; and commands that map to keystrokes; and

a unified user interface automatically generated from the master table;

~~wherein additional components can be subsequently added to a corresponding component table by a user~~ the master table is remerged from the component tables and the user interface is automatically regenerated from the remerged master table in response to modification of a software component of the application.

2-5 (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The ~~user interface~~ computing environment of claim 1, ~~further comprising an additional component table and wherein the master table is merged from the at least one component table and the additional component table~~ shell application is part of a suite application providing a common environment for the plurality of components.

7. (Currently Amended) The ~~user interface~~ computing environment of claim 1 ~~6~~, wherein a ~~removed component table of the at least one component table corresponds to a removed component and wherein the master table~~ is merged from the remaining component tables of the at least one component table the suite application has a shell user interface and each of the plurality of components has a component user interface different from the shell user interface.

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~user interface~~ computing environment of claim 1, wherein the master table includes available commands, menus and toolbars and the location of each available command.

9-23 (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium comprising computer-readable instructions for a unified user interface for ~~an~~ a modular software component-based shell application having a plurality of software components that execute within the shell application, said computer-readable instructions comprising instructions for:

~~one or more~~ a plurality of component tables, each component table corresponding to and providing resource information about a particular software component of the application, each component table including at least one command for the corresponding component, and each component table including a description for adding ~~the~~ each command to the user interface, each command having an associated priority; ~~and~~

a master table merged from the ~~one or more~~ plurality of component tables, said master table including available commands and available command vectors for the application, each command and command vector having a unique object identifier and a visibility flag specifying whether the command or command vector is to be displayed within the interface to a user of the interface, and said master table comprising at least one information element from among the following information elements: available commands including commands that are not menu commands; available command vectors including command vectors that do not correspond to menus commands; commands that are on toolbars; and commands that map to keystrokes; and

a unified user interface automatically generated from the master table;

~~wherein additional components can be subsequently added to a corresponding component table by a user~~ the master table is remerged from the component tables and the user interface is automatically regenerated from the remerged master table in response to modification of a software component of the application.

25-28 (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 24 further comprising instructions whereby ~~an additional component table and wherein the master table is merged from the at least one component table and the additional component table~~ the shell application is part of a suite application providing a common environment for the plurality of components.

30. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 24 ~~29~~ further comprising instructions whereby ~~a removed component table of the at least one component table corresponds to a removed component and wherein the master table is merged from the remaining component tables of the at least one component table~~ the suite application has a shell user interface and each of the plurality of components has a component user interface different from the shell user interface.

31. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 24 further comprising instructions whereby the master table includes available commands, menus and toolbars and the location of each available command.
32. (Currently Amended) The ~~user interface~~ computing environment of claim 1 wherein the ~~additional components are~~ can be subsequently added ~~after purchase by the a user of the application.~~
33. (Currently Amended) The ~~user interface~~ computing environment of claim 1 wherein the ~~additional components are~~ can be subsequently added after development of the application.
34. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 24 wherein the ~~additional components are~~ can be subsequently added ~~after purchase by the a user of the application.~~
35. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 24 wherein the ~~additional components are~~ can be subsequently added after development of the application.